

Group I claims 10, 2 and 5, directed to a method of identifying carcinogenic agents by administration thereof to a mammal wherein DNA repair is altered due to inhibition of poly(ADP ribose) polymerase; and

Group II claims 10, 3-6 and 11-15 directed to a method of identifying carcinogenic agents by administration of potential carcinogenic agents to a transgenic mammal wherein DNA repair is altered due to inhibition of poly(ADP ribose) polymerase,

applicants hereby elect, with traverse, Group II claims 10, 3-6 and 11-15.

The traversal is based on the introduction below of new linking claim 16, as hereinafter more fully discussed.

Please amend the application, by addition therein of the following new claim 16:

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16. A method of identifying carcinogenic agents, comprising administering one or more potential carcinogenic agents to a mammal having a genome comprising a DNA repair disturbance caused by inhibiting the poly(ADP ribose) polymerase, wherein said mammal is selected from the group consisting of (i) mammals transiently expressing the dominant negative poly(ADP ribose) polymerase, and (ii) transgenic mammals having a genome wherein the expression of poly(ADP ribose) polymerase is altered by an inserted gene encoding a dominant negative poly(ADP ribose) polymerase.

REMARKS

Applicants have elected the Group II claims 10, 3-6 and 11-15, with traverse. New independent claim 16 has been added to provide a further linking claim, in supplement to prior linking claims 5 and 10.

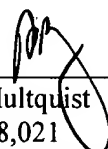
It therefore is requested that the Examiner reconsider, and on reconsideration withdraw, the restriction requirement, and concurrently examine all pending claims 2-6 and 10-16.

Fee Payable for Added Claim 16

The addition of new claim 16 herein does not increase the total number of claims beyond 20 in number or the number of independent claims beyond 3 in number. Accordingly, no fee for such added claim is due.

Nonetheless, any fee or charge determined by the PTO to be properly payable in connection with this response to the September 19, 2001 Office Action, is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-3284 of Intellectual Property/Technology Law.

Respectfully submitted,



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